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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT



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**ZHANGIZ-TOBE
ICBM COMPLEX
USSR**

Declass Review by
NIMA/DOD

TCS-80214/67

APRIL 1967

COPY **116**

6 PAGES

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PREFACE

This report updates and supersedes TCS-80829/66, Zhangiz-Tobe ICBM Complex, USSR, 1/ the initial report in a series prepared in response to CIA Requirement C-DI5-82,972 requesting detailed line drawings, to scale, of elements of the complex. The information contained herein is based on KEYHOLE photography through [REDACTED] Individual reports will be updated periodically to reflect changes observed on subsequent photography.

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ZHANGIZ-TOBE ICBM COMPLEX, USSR

The Zhangiz-Tobe ICBM Complex (Figure 1) is in the highest part of the Steppe Region, in the northeast corner of Soviet Central Asia, in the East Semipalatinsk Oblast of the Kazakh SSR. The complex support facility is about 2.0 nm west of the town of Zhangiz-Tobe; the launch sites, all Type IIIC, are in 3 groups of 6 sites each, with a fourth group containing 5 sites and 1 possible site. Construction is complete at 2 of the launch groups. The sites are deployed around the town perimeter, except for the northeast quadrant. None of the sites is more than 22.0 nm from the complex support facility.

The terrain in the vicinity of Zhangiz-Tobe is characterized by fairly flat areas marked by frequent sharp ridges. To the west, the land grows more rugged as it approaches the mountains. Relative relief in the area is about 1,200 feet, with most of the launch sites at elevations between 1,600 and 2,000 feet. The Char river valley northeast of the town appears to be quite swampy, which could account for the lack of deployment in that area. Some of the launch sites to the west are situated in saddles or low spots in the hills which could offer some blast protection.

There is no evidence of industrial activity in Zhangiz-Tobe. It appears to be predominantly an agricultural town. The chief occupations in this region are agriculture and sheep raising, with some reports of gold mining in the area. The surrounding country is sparsely inhabited. There are a few towns and villages in the Char river valley but, in the remainder of the surrounding region, settlements are very small and widely scattered. Semipalatinsk is about 80 nm northwest, but the closest large city is Novosibirsk about 350 nm to the north.

The climate of the Steppe Region ranges from hot summers to extremely cold winters. Annual precipitation averages 5 to 12 inches, mostly from snow-fall in the winter, with little change in amount from season to season. Maximum summer temperatures range as high as 110° F, with winter minimums as low as -50° F. Mean minimum temperatures average below zero during January and February. Snow cover is usually established by late November and continues through April. Cloudiness is generally at a maximum during the winter, with the frequency of cloudy days averaging about 15 to 20 per month. The winter and summer seasons are normally extended, and the transitional seasons correspondingly contracted. Spring is usually a rapid transition from a cold winter to a hot summer. Mean cloudiness decreases, and the number of clear days increases to 10 to 20 per month.

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Zhangiz-Tobe is on the rail line that runs south from Novosibirsk through Nemipalatinsk to Alma Ata. A spur was constructed from this rail line to serve the complex support facility and the rail-to road transfer point at the Zhangiz-Tobe Complex. A few roads of fair quality connect the towns in the river valley, but otherwise the only local roads are dirt tracks useless for missile transport. As the launch sites near completion, a system of improved roads is constructed to provide all-weather access within the complex

This complex, along with Uzhur, was the first of the Type IIIC complexes to be deployed. Construction work on the complex support facility was apparently initiated about [REDACTED]. This was about 2 months prior to the other 4 Type IIIC complexes. Construction starts for the 6 sites in Launch Group A were spread over most [REDACTED]. The first site was probably started in [REDACTED] and it was not until [REDACTED] that the sixth site was identified. The other 4 sites appeared at various intervals between [REDACTED]. Construction starts in Launch Group B were closer together. The first site was started in early winter of [REDACTED] and the other 5 were started during the spring of [REDACTED]. These sites in both groups were all complete by [REDACTED]. Launch Group C was begun during the winter and early spring [REDACTED] and Launch Group D in the fall and winter of [REDACTED].

There is no direct evidence that more than 4 launch groups will be deployed at this complex. However, if the previous schedule of starts were adhered to, a fifth group would not appear before the summer or early fall of [REDACTED]. The large stockpile of materials present in the complex support facility appears to be sufficient only for the 2 launch groups now under construction.

This complex probably has more room for deployment of additional launch groups than any of the Type IIIC complexes. The most likely areas for expansion are to the south and west. The terrain appears to be readily adaptable to the deployment of launch sites, and settlements are practically non-existent.

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ZHANGIZ-TOBE ICBM COMPLEX, USSR

Component	Type	Geographic Coordinates
Complex Support Facility	--	49-12N 081-09E
Launch Group A		
Launch Site 1A**	IIIC	49-11N 080-59E
Launch Site 2A	IIIC	49-17N 080-58E
Launch Site 3A	IIIC	49-12N 080-53E
Launch Site 4A	IIIC	49-10N 081-05E
Launch Site 5A	IIIC	49-06N 081-03E
Launch Site 6A	IIIC	49-07N 080-57E
Launch Group B		
Launch Site 7B	IIIC	49-19N 080-50E
Launch Site 8B	IIIC	49-26N 080-57E
Launch Site 9B	IIIC	49-25N 080-49E
Launch Site 10B**	IIIC	49-21N 080-58E
Launch Site 11B	IIIC	49-17N 081-05E
Launch Site 12B	IIIC	49-22N 081-06E
Launch Group C		
Launch Site 13C	IIIC	49-09N 081-14E
Launch Site 14C**	IIIC	49-10N 081-21E
Launch Site 15C	IIIC	49-08N 081-29E
Launch Site 16C	IIIC	49-03N 081-22E
Launch Site 17C	IIIC	49-01N 081-29E
Launch Site 18C	IIIC	49-05N 081-14E
Launch Group D		
Launch Site 19D	IIIC	49-01N 081-04E
Launch Site 20D	IIIC	48-58N 081-10E
Launch Site 21D	IIIC	48-37N 080-59E
Launch Site 22D	IIIC	48-54N 081-06E
Launch Site 24D	IIIC	48-52N 080-54E
Launch Site 26 (Possible)	IIIC	48-50N 081-03E
Launch Site 22X	IIIC	49-12N 081-07E

**Control Site with L-shaped electronics facility.
Possible sites are not shown on Figure 1.

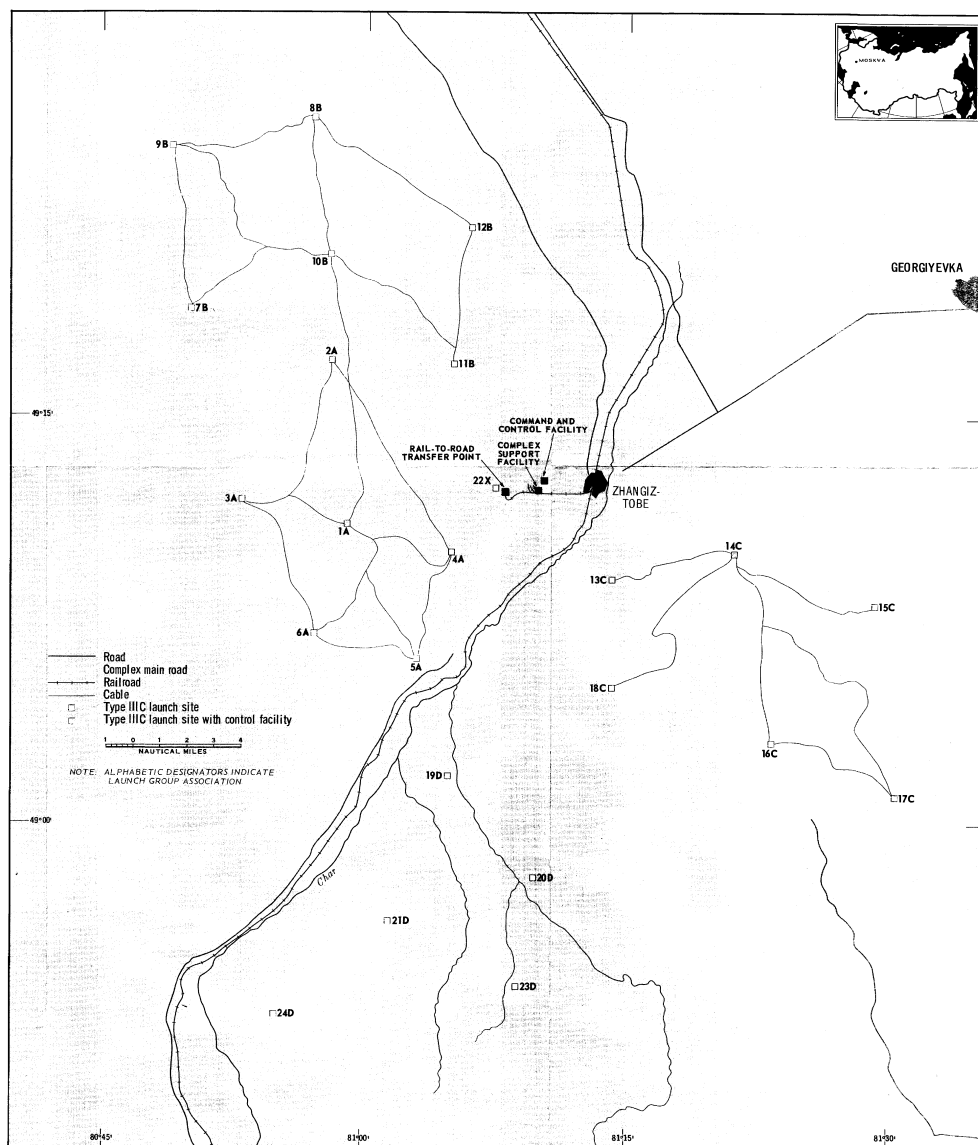


FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF ZHANGIZ-TOBE ICBM COMPLEX.

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REFERENCES

DOCUMENT

1. NPIC. TCS-80829/66, *Zhangiz-Tobe ICBM Complex, USSR*, Sep 66 (TOP SECRET RUFF)

REQUIREMENT

CIA. C-DI5-82,972

NPIC PROJECT

11210/66 (partial answer)

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